

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-8, 11-23, and 25-45 were pending in the application. Claim 25 has been cancelled. Claims 23 and 26-28 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 7-8, 11-23, and 26-45 remain pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 11-22, and 30-45 have been allowed.

Claims 25-28 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates Examiner's consideration of these claims.

35 U.S.C. 103 Rejections

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Traa (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,660). Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Javitt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,381,055) in view of Traa.

Independent claim 23 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 25. Applicant submits that the amended independent claim recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner. In accordance, amended claim 23 is believed to patentably distinguish over Traa.

Claim 29 is dependent upon claim 23, and is therefore believed to patentably distinguish over Javitt and Traa, whether alone or combined, for at least the reason given above.

Furthermore, claims 26-28 have been amended to incorporate the features of

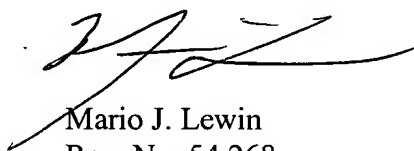
independent claim 23. Applicant submits that each of the amended claims 26-28 recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner. In accordance, amended claims 26-28 are believed to patentably distinguish over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If a phone interview would speed allowance of any pending claims, such is requested at the Examiner's convenience.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5957-16203/MJL.

Respectfully submitted,



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